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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yasutaka ITO

Group Art Unit: 3742

Application No.: 09/917,749

Examiner: J. Jeffery

Filed: July 31, 2001

Docket No.: 110575.01

For: CERAMIC HEATER WITH OFFSET ELECTRIC HEATING ELEMENTS IN THE THICKNESS DIRECTION (AS AMENDED)

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the March 11, 2002, Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 7, lines 1-17:

In this case, as according to claim 5 of the present invention, the maximum amount of offset of the locations may preferably be in the range of 3 to 500 μm. The maximum amount of offset less than 3 μm is insufficient to have an effect of disperse the expansion or shrinkage of the ceramic substrate, while on the other hand the maximum amount of offset more than 500 μm may invoke another problem of uniformity of thermal distribution on the surface of the ceramic heater. Here it should be noted that the 'maximum amount of offset' may be defined by the distance δtmax in the direction of thickness between the lowest level and the highest level as shown in Fig. 2; that the amount of offset between mutually adjacent parts (of heat generation bodies) may be defined by the distance δt in the direction of

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